Supplement No. 125 October 22, 1908

Full of Life and Up-to-date
SELIG'S NEXT

THE FISHERMAN'S RIVAL



ROYAL THEATRE

419 East 43rd Street

Thursday, October 22nd.

C. B. CANNON
Prop. Oakland and Royal Theatres

THE
SELIG POLYSCOPE CO., Inc.

45-47-49 Randolph St. — S — CHICAGO U. S. A.

THE FISHERMAN'S RIVAL.

This film depicts the romance of a fisher village in which the daughter of a fisherman, her city sweetheart, and a village rival are the central figures.

Clay Hughes, an athletic young city chap, spending his summer vacation at a little fishermen's settlement, meets and falls in love with Ethel Dean, the eldest daughter of a large family. Rufe Brown, a native of the village and accepted suitor by the parents of our heroine, soon learns of his rival's progress in winning the smiles of pretty Ethel, and in his ignorant and blundering way, proceeds by threats and abuse to discourage any attempt on Clay's part to win from him the prize he has coveted for years. But Ethel, who has spent some of her life in a metropolitan atmosphere, is not so easily cowed by her parents' commands and the noisy threats of the now thoroughly detested Rufe.

Goaded to desperation by the nagging of father and mother, who look upon Clay Hughes as a no account city "stuck-up," she makes up her mind to elope with her sweetheart, and after the marriage is culminated to forever shake the dust of Seaview from her feet. On her way to the post-office to mail a letter, arranging a meeting with her lover, she encounters her burly suitor, Rufe, who demands to know upon what errand she is bent. She attempts to pass him, when he snatches the letter from her hand and reads the address. Cursing his fortunate rival and heaping dire threats upon the head of the helpless girl, he rushes away to inform her parents of what he has learned.

Old man Dean is infuriated at his daughter's choice and advises Rufe to hunt up his rival and administer to him a sound thrashing, confident that the young city chap would beat a hasty retreat and thus become ridiculous in the eyes of the deluded girl. Acting upon this suggestion, and accompanied by the old man and two younger brothers of Ethel, he goes to Clay's boarding house and calls him out. They all repair to the outskirts of the village and there Rufe informs Clay that he intends to give him the "derndest lickin'" he ever had.

Something happened, but to the complete surprise and sorrow of the village bully, the outcome was far different from what he had gleefully anticipated. Never in the history of Seaview had one of its natives been so thoroughly and easily whipped. To the science and iron muscles of the mild looking city chap, poor Rufe was but a child. Bellowing with pain and rage, he staggers away and gives himself up to thoughts of hate and revenge.

Fearing to encounter his now feared rival alone, he secures the aid of a rough companion, and together they lie in wait for their victim.

The evening shades are fast falling when Clay and Ethel are seen walking along the sandy beach, planning their elopement of the morrow. Two figures come skulking out of the gloom, and sneaking up behind the unsuspecting couple, the girl is seized, and by a well directed blow, Clay is hurled unconscious to the ground. With a scream of agonized fear, Ethel sinks in a swoon on the sand. Hastily raising the limp form of his hated rival, Rufe carries him to a small row boat, and placing his insensible victim in the frail shell, he pushes it off into the waves, where the wind quickly seizes it and carries it rapidly out to sea.

Returning to the girl, the two ruffians drag her to an old warehouse, where the dissolute companion of the villianous Rufe makes his home. In order to divert suspicion from themselves, the two partners in crime try to induce Ethel to write a letter informing her parents that she has eloped with her lover, Clay. Her refusal to accede to their wishes causes them to resort to drastic measures. Opening a trap door to a slimy underground cellar below them, they lower the struggling girl by a rope into its grewsome depths, and there leave her until by fright she is compelled to obey their instructions.

Many hours these two fiends in human form await the brave girl's breakdown, but it does not come. One last expedient is left them. Separating the cellar from the rising tide are two sluice gates, by which means the passage below may be flushed. Hastening outside, they raise the ponderous gates and then return to the room, where, look-

ing down through the open trap door, they may watch the effect on Ethel of the rushing water as it swiftly rises about her form.

Mad with fear, as the angry tide pours in great volume through the open gates, the poor victim gives up her fight and pleads to be rescued from her watery grave. Lowering himself by the aid of a rope, Rufe drags her from the onrushing tide just in time to prevent the waters from closing over her.

Securing the letter he wanted and leaving her to be watched by his accomplice, the ruffian hurries to the old fisherman's house to apprise him of his daughter's disappearance, while sitting huddled in the corner, Ethel awaits his return.

But what of our hero, who was left to be tossed about on the open sea? Through the long night he drifts about, until with the return of dawn he finds that the wind has changed and is carrying him back towards the land. His signal of distress is finally seen, and a life crew is soon plowing its way through the waves to his rescue. A fast row back to the land, and then a search is begun for the missing girl.

Again we return to our heroine. She is watching with bated breath the intoxicated guard as he sinks into a drunken slumber. The thought of escape comes to her mind. She first convinces herself that the scoundrel is asleep, then steals softly towards the outer door. Too late—the burly form of Rufe looms up before her. He seizes her in his arms, but in her frantic struggles the lamp is dashed to the floor and before the villains have time to strike a match the girl has fled. With an oath, Rufe dashes through the door to follow her, but the girl is swift of foot and has almost reached her home when she runs into the arms of her lover, who, with a party of men has been searching for her. Rufe also stumbles into their midst and is at once put under arrest. His subsequent trial and condemnation are shown, also the happy ending of Ethel and Clay's romance.

Watch for our Sunday's attractions

Better than ever

Don't miss them!

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